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Legorn, Decemb. 29.

Our Letters from Naples of the 22 instant, tell us, that the Succors designed for Sicily, are still detained there by bad weather, which may prove very prejudicial to the affairs of Sicily; for we are assured that that Viceroy, the Marquis de Castel Rodrigo, cannot at present draw together above 4 or 5000 men, besides those that must remain in Garison in the principal places, when on the other side the Duke de Vivonne has an Army, what of French and Messineses, of 16000 men. The French have taken the Town of Spacafoca, with two other places near Melazzo.

Milan, Decemb. 30. Our Governor the Prince of Ligne hath made choice of the Sieur Arose to be Colonel of the Regiment of Foot which is designed for Sicily, as well the said Regiment, as the other Troops that are to be sent thither, will embark very suddenly at Vinal, in order to their passage to Melazzo, the Government of which place is lately given to Don Louis de Salcedo. We are told that a very considerable Sum of Money will be remitted hither from Spain, to enable our Governor to raise more Troops in this Countrey, and the Neighbouring parts, for the service of Sicily.

Vienna, Jan. 3. We continue our preparations for the reception of their Imperial Majesties, who are expected here the 14 or 15 of the next month. The 27 past parted hence the Count de Montecuculi, and the Marquis de Grana, on their way to Linz, according to the Orders they had received from thence; it is said that the former will be sent by the Emperor to the Elector of Bavaria, to try once more whether his Electoral Highness can be persuaded to embrace the party of his Imperial Majesty and his Allies. The Sieur Bevilacqua, the Popes Nuncio, having received his dispatches from Rome, is preparing for his journey to Nimeguen, or to some place near it, to employ his Offices between the Emperor, Spain and France, by whom the Pope is received Mediator for the procuring a Peace. From Hungary they continue to write, That the Rebels give out, that they will take the Field in the Spring with a very considerable Army.

Linz, Jan. 5. The 8th instant their Imperial Majesties will part hence on their return to Vienna. This day the Deputies of the Elector of Mentz received investiture of the Emperor in the name of that Elector. Prince Adolphus of Deux-pons, Uncle to the King of Sweden, hath not yet been able to obtain Audience of the Emperor.

Hamburgh, Jan. 8. This evening we receive Letters from Denmark, which say, that the Swedes, after having burnt the Town of Helsingburg, had, by force of Granaadoes and Cannon, obliged the Governor to surrender the Castle, of which we expect to hear farther. From Berlin they write, that the Elector of Brandenburg lies at present very ill of the Gout, but that his Electoral Highness intends, so soon as it has left him, to begin his journey to Cleve, to meet the Prince of Orange there.

Ditto, Jan. 12. In our last we gave you an account that we had received Letters from Denmark, which said that the Swedes were become Masters of the Castle of Helsingburg, since we have not received any advices from those parts, so that we can neither confirm nor discredit that news. The King of Denmark, we hear, has given out Commissions for the raising 12 Regiments of Foot against Spring, and besides is in expectation of being considerably assisted by his Allies; but in the mean time the Danes, as we are informed, are very much concerned that the States General of the United Provinces have not as yet taken any resolution, concerning the fitting out a Squadron of Men of War, to join with the Danish Fleet this next Summer; and it was reported that the King of Denmark was resolved to send Admiral Tromp for Holland, to press the States in this matter. The Duke of Holstein Gottorp continues still here, his Friends complaining extremely of the ill Treatment he receives from the King of Denmark.

Ditto. We have seen here Letters from some of the principal Swedish Officers in Schonen, which give this following brief Account of the late Battel between them and the Danes on the 14 of December last, as well as of what hath hapned since.

That on the 14 past, the King of Sweden decamped with his Army about three or four a clock in the morning, and having passed the River that was between him and the Danes, advanced at the head of his Army, commanded under his Majesty by Velt Marechal Helmsfeldt, and General Aschenberg; That about eight a clock the Fight begun with the Enemies left Wing, which had the Van, and was totally routed, most of the Infantry being cut in pieces, and the Cavalry retiring in so much disorder, that they could never be brought to rally again; That the King commanded his Forces in person with great resolution and conduct, and charged the Enemy 14 or 15 times at the head of his Regiment of Guards, and afterwards went to the assistance of his left Wing, which was very much pressed by the Enemy, and so continued in the Action from the beginning to the end thereof; when the Danes, after having sustained a great loss of men, as well as of their Artillery, found themselves obliged to retire with their remaining Troops towards Landskron, and to leave to the Swedes an entire Victory; That the next day the Town of Hsted, and several other places submitted themselves to the King of Sweden, and begged his mercy and pardon, as likewise a great many of the principal Families in Schonen have done, while others are retired into Denmark; That some dayes after this Action, the Swedes advanced to Helsingburg, and having caused several pieces of Cannon to be brought thither, they begun to fire upon the Castle, and so continued several dayes without intermission, preparing in the mean time several Mines under the walls of the Castle, which being ready to be sprung, the Governor of the said Castle was sent to, and desired to send out some person, to take a view of the said Mines, to the end he might by an early Surrender prevent the destruction of himself and his Garison; which